

## Important information for parents about how to prepare your scout for any merit badge program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park!

**Please bring your blue card. We do not have them.**



Be sure that you are familiar with the requirements for the merit badge your scout has selected. Some badges can be are very demanding and may take considerable time and planning to complete. Some badges are not appropriate for younger scouts.

Most Merit Badges are not designed to be completed in a single session with an instructor, so it is not always possible to walk away with a completed and signed blue card at the end a program. Every badge requires some independent work by your scout. We call this “pre-work” because, if these requirements are performed **prior** to our program, we can complete and sign the merit badge card. Otherwise we will initial the specific requirements covered at the completion of our program and will have qualified counselors review the unmet requirements on an individual basis when your scout has completed them. Note you will have to contact and schedule an appointment with an appropriate staff member to do this. Not all staff members are qualified for all badges.

We do attempt to meet the two-adult guideline for scouting programs when practicable. Our staffing is limited and so at times we may ask that a parent remain with the group. There is never a fee for adults in our scouting programs and you may learn something. So please ***prepare for the possibility that you may have to stay for the program and not just drop off your scout..***

Be sure your scout is dressed appropriately for being outdoors for some or all of the program time.

Packing water and snacks is wise for long programs and programs scheduled in hot weather months.

Lastly, obtaining copies of the scout resource booklet for the merit badge can help prepare your scout working with his counselor and for completing any independent study. Books for the badges can be ordered at your local scouting store or at [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org).

Thank you! And best wishes for success to your scout.

Photography: This is **TWO 2-hour classes**. PLEASE BRING A CAMERA.

Pre-Work (or Post-Work):

For Requirement #5, please familiarize yourself with different photography careers.

Keep reading for more details ....

# PHOTOGRAPHY MERIT BADGE

**BE PREPARED:** The Photography Merit Badge at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park requires attendance at **TWO** sessions. The first focuses on accomplishing requirements 1 through 3 and 5. The second session is a photography show, where you will have the opportunity to fulfill requirement 4 and place your best photograph a group show that will be on display for park visitors. You will also be able to invite your parents to a celebratory “opening” of the group show.

## **PRE-WORK:**

- Look up information to select a photography career that interests you. **Be prepared to discuss how you might prepare for the photography career.** What sort of education would you need? Are there special schools or classes? What sort of experiences would be helpful? Easy references on the web include:
  - <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/media-and-communication/photographers.htm>
  - <http://www.collegegrad.com/careers/proft30.shtml>
  - <http://www.theartcareerproject.com/photojournalism/809/>
  - <http://www.theartcareerproject.com/shoot-for-the-sky-learn-about-a-career-in-photography/90/>
- You must have a camera — digital or film—that you can bring to the sessions and use to fulfill requirement 4. We do not provide cameras.
- Familiarize yourself with the camera and it’s basic operation. Read the owner’s manual if you have one.
- Read the options for requirement 4 **and have some ideas for either a photo-story or a topic you would like to photograph.** NOTE: If you wish to do a photo-story, be aware the two scheduled sessions are just two weeks apart. Some photo-stories (eg a story about Walney Pond through the seasons) can take time to complete. If you wish to undertake such a project, please be sure you are photographing well in advance of the date of our merit badge sessions OR understand that you will not have the badge completed until you have completed your project. NOTE — YOU MUST GO OUT AND TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS AFTER HAVING COMPLETED THE FIRST SESSION. PLEASE DO NOT SHOW PHOTOGRAPHS THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN BEFORE THE PROGRAM.
- Acceptable formats for your multiple-image personal show include a slideshow (a CD or flashdrive — please be sure your system is virus-free.) OR you can also mount small-size prints onto a board. Foam-core is light-weight and rigid and will work well. Illustration or mounting board will also work. Oaktag will be very floppy but it is inexpensive.

# PHOTOGRAPHY MERIT BADGE

## Requirements

1. Explain how the following elements and terms affect the quality of a picture:
  - a. Light--natural light/ambient, flash
  - b. Exposure--aperture (f-stops), shutter speed, depth of field
  - c. Composition--rule of thirds, leading lines, framing, depth
  - d. Angle of view
  - e. Stopping action
2. Explain the basic parts and operation of a film camera or digital camera. Explain how an exposure is made when you take a picture.
3. Discuss with your counselor the differences between a film camera and a digital camera. **Describe how computer software allows you to make adjustments to a digital photograph after it is taken.**
4. Do ONE of the following:
  - a. Produce a picture story using the photojournalistic technique of documenting an event. Share your plan with your counselor and get your counselor's input and approval before you proceed. Then, using either a film camera or a digital camera, produce your approved picture story. Process your images and select eight to 12 images that best tell your story. Arrange your images in order, then mount the prints on a poster board. If you are using digital images, you may create a slide show on your computer or produce printouts for your poster board. Share your picture story with your counselor.
  - b. Choose a topic that interests you to photograph for an exhibit or display. Get your counselor's approval, then photograph (digital or film) your topic. Process your images. Choose 20 of your favorite images and mount them on poster board. Share your display with your counselor. If you are using digital images, you may create a slide show on your computer or produce printouts for your poster board.
5. *Discuss with your counselor the career opportunities in photography. Pick one that interests you and explain how to prepare for such a career.* \*\* Discuss with your counselor the education and training such a career would require.

**\*\* Pre-Work or Post-Work**